



Born on August 14, 1936 in Houston, Texas, **Johnny R. Warren** attended the University of Texas, graduating with degrees in petroleum engineering and business. After moving to Houston upon graduation, he was transferred to Midland while working for Southwest Industries as an oil industry equipment salesman. He then worked for Wilson Supply and Mission Manufacturing, enlarging his network of industry contacts and selling compressors to industry majors like Texaco.

In 1971, Jack Treanor, owner of Treanor Equipment Company wanted to establish a subsidiary; Compressor Systems, Inc. (CSI). Warren became general manager of CSI, which supplied Caterpillar related products to the local industry and focused on short term rental compression. Warren foresaw a greater need in the Permian Basin for all types of compression and expanded the business to include compressor fabrication and packaging units to companies producing natural gas and also selling compressor packages overseas.

In 1975, Warren opened an expanded facility and added regional service and maintenance facilities in locations where CSI's customer base continued to grow. The company prospered and by the end of the year CSI employed 85 people in several states. Warren bought CSI that year and continued to find opportunities to expand, purchasing small equipment enterprises on the East coast and in the Southeast. By 1979, the company had over 500 employees and 21 locations.

In 1981, Warren established Ignition Systems & Controls, Inc. (ISC) to repair or manufacture certain natural gas engine parts. Despite the oil industry downturn in 1982, Warren used his resolve and creativity to purchase companies in Louisiana and Pennsylvania to diversify the company's revenue stream and expand its geographic reach. Warren then purchased Treanor Equipment Company in 1985 after the untimely death of Jack Treanor. The result of Warren's vision and entrepreneurship, in 2008, Warren Equipment Company consisted of seven companies operating in 20 states with \$1.2 billion in aggregate reserves

CSI celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 1995. Following his passion for education, the next year Warren met with Odessa College officials to discuss bolstering the schools diesel mechanics program. He provided scholarships for students in the program and internships at Warren CAT. He also provided his own employees with the opportunity to further their education by providing for tuition, fees and books and established a scholarship program for employee's children as well.

Warren has also been a benefactor in the community, helping to raise \$6 million for First Presbyterian Church, and serving as president of MISD and the Midland Chamber of Commerce and as director of the Midland College Foundation, Permian Basin Area Foundation, and Midland Presbyterian Homes. At the time of his death, Warren was Chairman of the Board and President of Warren Equipment Company, which had three operating subsidiaries.